

ABSTRACT

Mining and conservation are two controversial issues related to the natural resources management as found in the case of karst mining zone at Gunungkidul regency, Yogyakarta special region. The rocky area of Gunungkidul which is mostly comprised of karst has supported its people economically and the ecologically. They have used the karst for three purposes: as raw material of home industries, as ecosystem buffering for clean water supply, and in general as controlling agent of climate change. This research was aimed at analysing law aspect of karst protection with the specific emphasis on the consistency and conformity of karst mining regulation in regard to its conservation. The research used empirical and normative legal research methods. The data were collected from in-depth interview and library research. The data were analyzed by using qualitative descriptive method. The research found that there were some particular karst zones that had been eliminated from karst protected zone in Gunungsewu, especially in Gunungkidul. Then the mining activities are still being conducted under the prevailing laws. The research also found a serious unconformity of karst mining regulations Law No. 23 of 2014 concerning the right of Local Government to issue mining permits and Law No. 4 Year 2009 on Mineral and Coal Mining which authorizes the regent/mayor to establish Regional Mining Business License (WIUP) and Mining Business License (IUP). The researcher concluded that there have been inconsistency and unconformity of laws in the mining of karst at Gunungkidul regency, Yogyakarta special region. As the results, its conservation purpose has not been reached at all.

Keyword: karst, mining, conservation, ecology